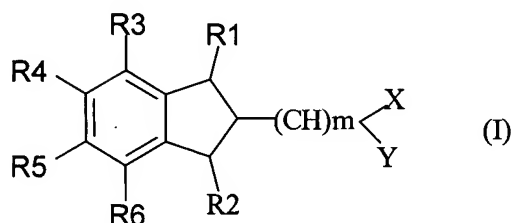


IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A compound having structural formula (I):



stereoisomers thereof, or pharmaceutically acceptable salts or hydrates thereof, wherein:

R1, and R2 are each separately selected from the group ~~comprising~~consisting of:

- (i) H, and
- (ii) an acidic group selected from the group ~~comprising~~consisting of carboxy, phosphono, phosphino, sulfono, sulfino, borono, tetrazol, isoxazol, $-(CH_2)_n$ -carboxy, $-(CH_2)_n$ -phosphono, $-(CH_2)_n$ -phosphino, $-(CH_2)_n$ -sulfono, $-(CH_2)_n$ -sulfino, $-(CH_2)_n$ -borono, $-(CH_2)_n$ -tetrazol, ~~or~~ and $-(CH_2)_n$ -isoxazol, where $n = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$, or 6 ;

X is an acidic group selected from the group ~~comprising~~consisting of carboxy, phosphono, phosphino, sulfono, sulfino, borono, tetrazol ~~or~~ and isoxazol;

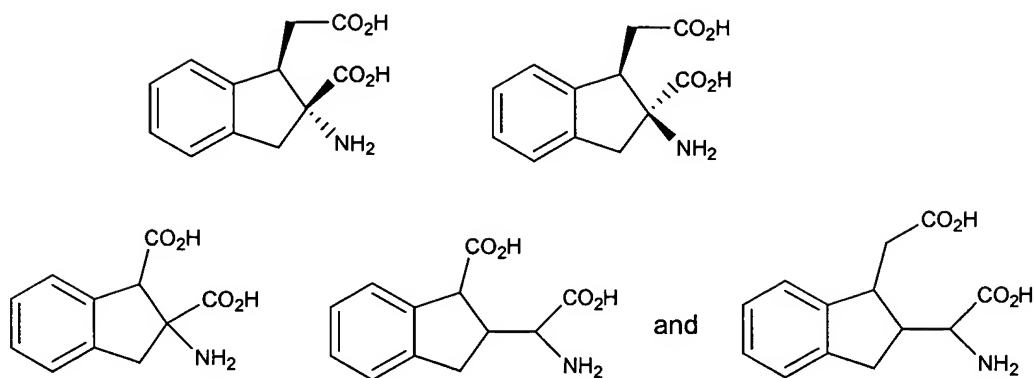
Y is a basic group selected from the group ~~comprising~~ consisting of 1° amino, 2° amino, 3° amino, quaternary ammonium salts, aliphatic 1° amino, aliphatic 2° amino, aliphatic 3° amino, aliphatic quaternary ammonium salts, aromatic 1° amino, aromatic 2° amino, aromatic 3° amino, aromatic quaternary ammonium salts, imidazol, guanidino, boronoamino, allyl, urea or and thiourea;

m is 0, 1;

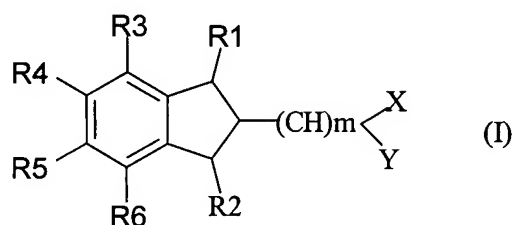
R3, R4, R5, R6 are independently H, nitro, amino, halogen, tritium, trifluoromethyl, trifluoroacetyl, sulfo, carboxy, carbamoyl, sulfamoyl, or an acceptable ester thereof;

with the proviso that at least one of R1 and R2 is other than H.

2. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, wherein R1 is H, CO₂H or CH₂CO₂H.
3. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, wherein R2 is H, CO₂H or CH₂CO₂H.
4. (Currently Amended) The compound according to claim 1, wherein said compound is selected from the group of ~~compounds comprising~~ consisting of:



5. (Currently Amended) A process for the preparation of a compound of Formula I:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable metabolically-labile ester or amide thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salts or hydrates thereof, wherein:

R1, and R2 are each separately selected from the group comprising consisting of:

(i) H, and

(ii) an acidic group selected from the group comprising consisting of carboxy, phosphono, phosphino, sulfono, sulfinio, borono, tetrazol, isoxazol,

$-(CH_2)_n$ -carboxy, $-(CH_2)_n$ -phosphono, $-(CH_2)_n$ -phosphino, $-(CH_2)_n$ -sulfonyl, $-(CH_2)_n$ -sulfinyl, $-(CH_2)_n$ -borono, $-(CH_2)_n$ -tetrazol, or and $-(CH_2)_n$ -isoxazol, wherein n = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6;

X is an acidic group selected from the group ~~comprising~~ consisting of carboxy, phosphono, phosphino, sulfonyl, sulfinyl, borono, tetrazol or and isoxazol;

Y is a basic group selected from the group ~~comprising~~ consisting of 1° amino, 2° amino, 3° amino, quaternary ammonium salts, aliphatic 1° amino, aliphatic 2° amino, aliphatic 3° amino, aliphatic quaternary ammonium salts, aromatic 1° amino, aromatic 2° amino, aromatic 3° amino, aromatic quaternary ammonium salts, imidazol, guanidino, boronoamino, allyl, urea or and thiourea;

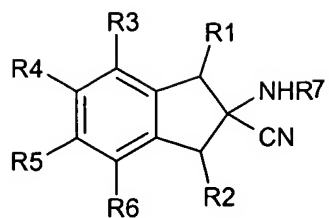
m is 0, 1;

R3, R4, R5, R6 are independently H, nitro, amino, halogen, tritium, trifluoromethyl, trifluoroacetyl, sulfo, carboxy, carbamoyl, sulfamoyl, or an acceptable ester thereof;

with the proviso that at least one of R1 and R2 is other than H,

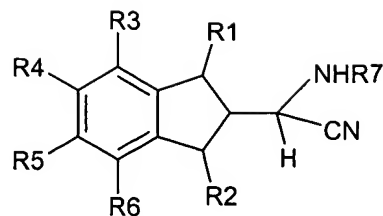
the ~~method~~ process comprising:

- a) hydrolyzing a compound of formula (IIa) or (IIb):



(IIa)

or



(IIb)

wherein: R₁, and R₂ are each separately selected from the group comprising consisting of:

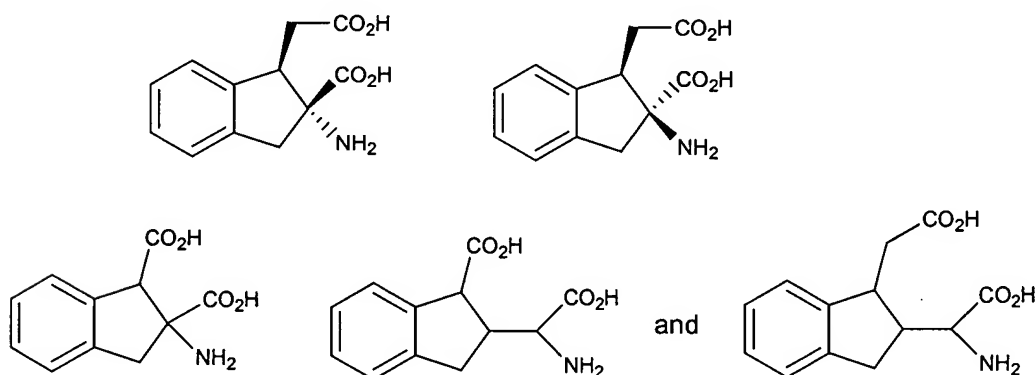
- (i) H, and
- (ii) an acidic group selected from the group comprising consisting of carboxy, phosphono, phosphino, sulfono, sulfino, borono, tetrazol, isoxazol,
 -(CH₂)_n-carboxy, -(CH₂)_n-phosphono, -(CH₂)_n-phosphino,
 -(CH₂)_n-sulfono, -(CH₂)_n-sulfino, -(CH₂)_n-borono, -(CH₂)_n-tetrazol, or
and
 -(CH₂)_n-isoxazol, wherein n = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6;

with the proviso that at least one of R₁ and R₂ is other than H;

R₃, R₄, R₅, R₆ are independently H, nitro, amino, halogen, tritium, trifluoromethyl, trifluoroacetyl, sulfo, carboxy, carbamoyl, sulfamoyl, or an acceptable ester thereof; R₇ is a hydrogen atom or an acyl group; or

- b) hydrolyzing a compound of formula (IIIa) or (IIIb):

- (ii) converting the compound of Formula I into a non-toxic metabolically labile ester or amide thereof and/or;
 - (iii) converting the compound of Formula I or a non-toxic metabolically labile ester or amide thereof into a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
6. (Original) A pharmaceutical formulation, which comprises a compound according to claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent or excipient.
7. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 6, wherein said compound is selected from the group of ~~compounds comprising~~ consisting of:



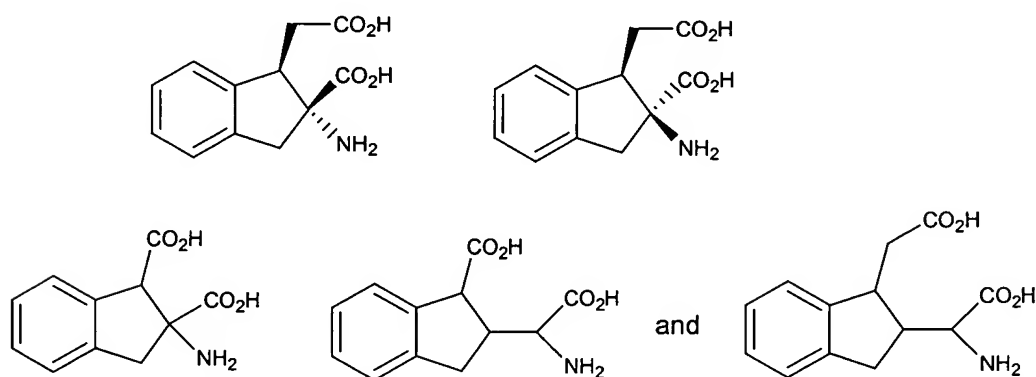
8. ~~(Currently Amended) The use of the compound of structural formula (I) according to claim 1, in modulating one or more metabotropic glutamate receptor functions in warm blooded mammals, wherein said use comprises administering an effective amount of a compound of formula (I). A method of modulating one or more metabotropic glutamate receptor functions in a warm blooded mammal, comprising administering an effective amount of a~~

compound of formula (I) according to claim 1 to a warm blooded mammal in need thereof.

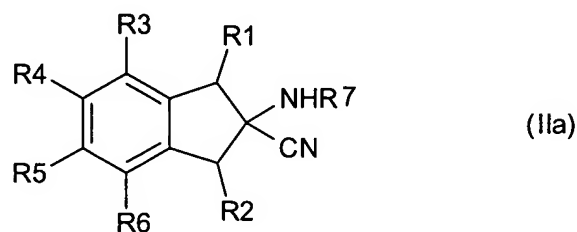
9. (Currently Amended) ~~The use of the compound of structural formula (I) according to claim 1, in treating a~~ A method of treating a neurological disease or disorder in a warm blooded mammal comprising administering an effective amount of the compound of formula (I) according to claim 1 to a warm blooded mammal in need thereof, wherein said neurological disease or disorder is selected from the group comprisingconsisting of: cerebral deficits subsequent to cardiac bypass surgery and grafting, cerebral ischemia, stroke cardiac arrest, spinal cord trauma, head trauma, perinatal hypoxia, hypoglycemic neuronal damage, Alzheimer's disease, Huntington's Chorea, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, AIDS-induced dementia, ocular damage, retinopathy, cognitive disorders, idiopathic and drug-induced Parkinson's disease, muscular spasms, convulsions, migraine headaches, urinary incontinence, psychosis, drug tolerance, withdrawal, and cessation, smoking cessation, anxiety and related disorders, panic attack, emesis, brain edema, chronic pain, sleep disorders, Tourette's syndrome, attention deficit disorder, and tardive dyskinesia, ~~wherein said use comprises administering an effective amount of a compound of formula (I).~~
10. (Currently Amended) ~~The use of the compound of structural formula (I) according to claim 1, in treating a~~ A method of treating a psychiatric disease or disorder in a warm blooded mammal comprising administering an effective amount of the compound of formula (I) according to claim 1 to a warm blooded mammal in need thereof, wherein said psychiatric disease or disorder is selected from the group comprisingconsisting of: schizophrenia, anxiety and related disorders, depression, bipolar

disorders, psychosis, and obsessive compulsive disorders, wherein said use comprises administering an effective amount of a compound of formula (I).

11. (Currently Amended) The use according to method of any one of claims 8, 9 and or 10 wherein said compound is selected from the group of compounds comprising consisting of :



12. (Currently Amended) A compound of formula (IIa):



wherein: R1, and R2 ~~can~~ are each separately ~~be~~ selected from the group consisting of:

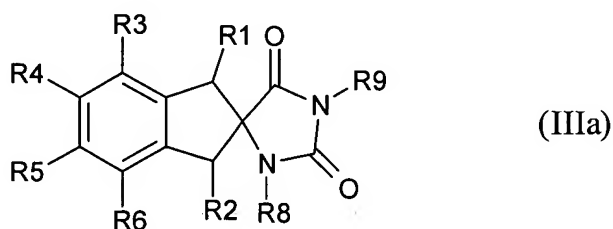
- (i) H, and

- (ii) an acidic group selected from the group comprising consisting of carboxy, phosphono, phosphino, sulfono, sulfino, borono, tetrazol, isoxazol,
 $-(CH_2)_n$ -carboxy, $-(CH_2)_n$ -phosphono, $-(CH_2)_n$ -phosphino,
 $-(CH_2)_n$ -sulfono, $-(CH_2)_n$ -sulfino, $-(CH_2)_n$ -borono, $-(CH_2)_n$ -tetrazol, or
and
 $-(CH_2)_n$ -isoxazol, wherein $n = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$, or 6 ;

R3, R4, R5 and R6 are independently H, nitro, amino, halogen, tritium, trifluoromethyl, trifluoroacetyl, sulfo, carboxy, carbamoyl, sulfamoyl, or pharmaceutically acceptable ester or salt thereof, R7 is a hydrogen atom or an acyl group. ~~Preferred functional groups for R7 are hydrogen and (C₂-C₆)-alkanoyl groups;~~

with the proviso that at least one of R1 and R2 is other than H.

13. (Currently Amended) A compound of formula (IIIa):



wherein: R1, and R2 ~~can~~ are each separately ~~be~~ selected from the group consisting of:

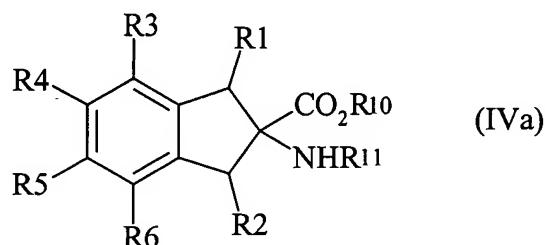
- (i) H, and

- (ii) an acidic group selected from the group ~~comprising~~ consisting of carboxy, phosphono, phosphino, sulfono, sulfinio, borono, tetrazol, isoxazol,
 $-(CH_2)_n$ -carboxy, $-(CH_2)_n$ -phosphono, $-(CH_2)_n$ -phosphino,
 $-(CH_2)_n$ -sulfono, $-(CH_2)_n$ -sulfinio, $-(CH_2)_n$ -borono, $-(CH_2)_n$ -tetrazol, or
and
 $-(CH_2)_n$ -isoxazol, wherein $n = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$, or 6 ;

R3, R4, R5 and R6 are independently H, nitro, amino, halogen, tritium, trifluoromethyl, trifluoroacetyl, sulfo, carboxy, carbamoyl, sulfamoyl, or pharmaceutically acceptable ester or salt thereof; R8 and R9 are each independently represent a hydrogen atom, a (C_2-C_6) alkanoyl group, a (C_1-C_4) alkyl group, a (C_3-C_4) alkenyl group or a phenyl (C_1-C_4) alkyl group wherein the phenyl is unsubstituted or substituted by halogen, (C_1-C_4) alkyl or (C_1-C_4) alkoxy, or a salt thereof;

with the proviso that at least one of R1 and R2 is other than H.

14. (Currently Amended) A compound of formula (IVa):



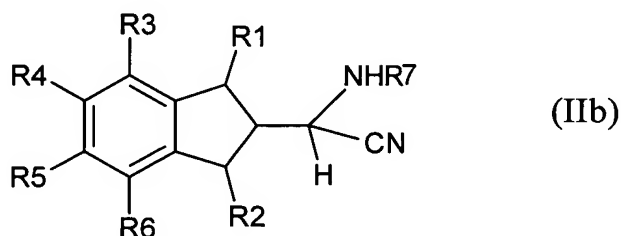
wherein: R1, and R2 ~~can~~ are each separately ~~be~~ selected from the group consisting of:

- (i) H, and
- (ii) an acidic group selected from the group ~~comprising~~ consisting of carboxy, phosphono, phosphino, sulfono, sulfinio, borono, tetrazol, isoxazol,
 $-(CH_2)_n$ -carboxy, $-(CH_2)_n$ -phosphono, $-(CH_2)_n$ -phosphino,
 $-(CH_2)_n$ -sulfono, $-(CH_2)_n$ -sulfinio, $-(CH_2)_n$ -borono, $-(CH_2)_n$ -tetrazol, or
and
 $-(CH_2)_n$ -isoxazol, wherein $n = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$, or 6 ;

R3, R4, R5 and R6 are independently H, nitro, amino, halogen, tritium, trifluoromethyl, trifluoroacetyl, sulfo, carboxy, carbamoyl, sulfamoyl, or pharmaceutically acceptable ester or salt thereof; R10 is a hydrogen atom or a carboxyl protecting group, or a salt thereof, and R11 is a hydrogen atom or a nitrogen protecting group;

with the proviso that at least one of R1 and R2 is other than H.

15. (Currently Amended) A compound of formula (IIb):



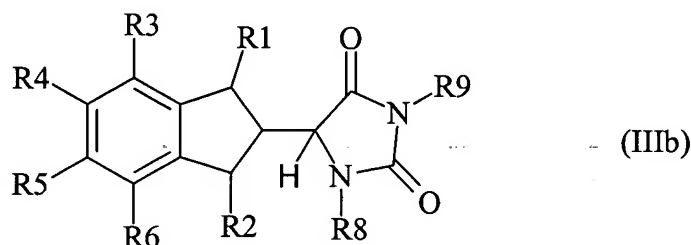
wherein: R1, and R2 ~~can~~ are each separately ~~be~~ selected from the group consisting of:

- (i) H, and
- (ii) an acidic group selected from the group ~~comprising~~ consisting of carboxy, phosphono, phosphino, sulfono, sulfinio, borono, tetrazol, isoxazol,
 $-(CH_2)_n$ -carboxy, $-(CH_2)_n$ -phosphono, $-(CH_2)_n$ -phosphino,
 $-(CH_2)_n$ -sulfono, $-(CH_2)_n$ -sulfinio, $-(CH_2)_n$ -borono, $-(CH_2)_n$ -tetrazol, ~~or~~ and
 $-(CH_2)_n$ -isoxazol, wherein n = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6;

R3, R4, R5 and R6 are independently H, nitro, amino, halogen, tritium, trifluoromethyl, trifluoroacetyl, sulfo, carboxy, carbamoyl, sulfamoyl, or pharmaceutically acceptable ester or salt thereof; R7 is a hydrogen atom or an acyl group-;

with the proviso that at least one of R1 and R2 is other than H.

16. (Currently Amended) A compound of formula (IIIb):



wherein: R1, ~~and~~ are each separately ~~be~~ selected from the group consisting of:

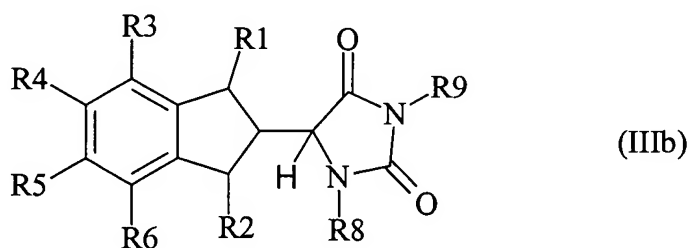
- (i) H, and

- (ii) an acidic group selected from the group ~~comprising~~ consisting of carboxy, phosphono, phosphino, sulfono, sulfinio, borono, tetrazol, isoxazol,
 $-(CH_2)_n$ -carboxy, $-(CH_2)_n$ -phosphono, $-(CH_2)_n$ -phosphino,
 $-(CH_2)_n$ -sulfono, $-(CH_2)_n$ -sulfinio, $-(CH_2)_n$ -borono, $-(CH_2)_n$ -tetrazol, or
and
 $-(CH_2)_n$ -isoxazol, wherein $n = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$, or 6 ;

R3, R4, R5 and R6 are independently H, nitro, amino, halogen, tritium, trifluoromethyl, trifluoroacetyl, sulfo, carboxy, carbamoyl, sulfamoyl, or pharmaceutically acceptable ester or salt thereof; R8 and R9 ~~are~~ each independently represent a hydrogen atom, a (C_2-C_6) alkanoyl group, a (C_1-C_4) alkyl group, a (C_3-C_6) alkenyl group or a phenyl (C_1-C_4) alkyl group wherein the phenyl is unsubstituted or substituted by halogen, (C_1-C_4) alkyl or (C_1-C_4) alkoxy, or a salt thereof;

with the proviso that at least one of R1 and R2 is other than H.

17. (Currently Amended) A compound of formula (IVb):



wherein: R1, and R2 ~~can~~ are each separately ~~be~~ selected from the group consisting of:

- (i) H, and
- (ii) an acidic group selected from the group ~~comprising~~ consisting of carboxy, phosphono, phosphino, sulfono, sulfinio, borono, tetrazol, isoxazol,
-(CH₂)_n-carboxy, -(CH₂)_n-phosphono, -(CH₂)_n-phosphino,
-(CH₂)_n-sulfono, -(CH₂)_n-sulfinio, -(CH₂)_n-borono, -(CH₂)_n-tetrazol, ~~or~~
and
-(CH₂)_n-isoxazol, wherein n =1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6;

R3, R4, R5 and R6 are independently H, nitro, amino, halogen, tritium, trifluoromethyl, trifluoroacetyl, sulfo, carboxy, carbamoyl, sulfamoyl, or pharmaceutically acceptable ester or salt thereof; R10 is a hydrogen atom or a carboxyl protecting group or a salt thereof, and R11 is a hydrogen atom or a nitrogen protecting;

with the proviso that at least one of R1 and R2 is other than H.

The following new claims are added:

18. (New) The process according to claim 5, wherein R7 is (C₂-C₆) alkanoyl.
19. (New) The compound according to claim 12, wherein R7 is (C₂-C₆) alkanoyl.
20. (New) The method of claim 9, wherein said withdrawal or cessation is from opiates, benzodiazepines, nicotine, cocaine or ethanol.